

"SOCIAL AND ETHICAL ASPECTS OF LIQUOR TRAFFIC" IN OUR NEXT ISSUE.

# THE COMMONS

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## UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIPS IN SOCIAL SETTLEMENTS.

Original Work of Michigan University Students at Chicago Commons.

For the second time the five months' residence on a Michigan University Fellowship has been completed, shorter periods having been enjoyed previously by three other students. The residence and report of Mr. Royal L. Melendy last year were notable for his investigation of the ethical substitutes for the saloon, and the credit he received for his findings, both from the University and at the hands of the Committee of Fifty, as a part of whose investigation his inquiry was made.

The point of view and method of work thus acquired enabled Mr. Melendy to apply them in his church work in Colorado so successfully that it is considered a type of service best adapted to Christian effort among the mining camps of that State. Miss Edith I. Clarke, who succeeded him on the fellowship, was assigned to the original study of "Juvenile Dependency and Delinquency in Chicago." For five months she has been closely identified with the new juvenile court, its probation officers, and societies and institutions for child-saving in and about Chicago. Her report, which will be submitted to the University of Michigan this autumn, thoroughly canvasses the fact, causes and treatment of children's dependency and delinquency from the point of view of her practical experience and personal observation. Her settlement residence has been very useful in the life and work of Chicago Commons for its great neighborhood. The students of the Christian Association and the faculty and friends of the University of Michigan have contributed in her residence no small service to the city and settlement, the reflex influence of which it is to be hoped may be very directly brought to bear upon the life of the student body and the practical aims of the great University, as Miss Clarke resumes her place in the class-room and the college world.



NEWBERRY HALL.

## UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN AT CHICAGO COMMONS.

Professor Cooley on "Settlement Fellowships and the University."

Royal L. Melendy on "A Student's Experience in Settlement Residence."

Miss Edith I. Clarke on "The Juvenile Court in Chicago."

Outlines of Fellowship Investigation of "Ethical Aspects of the Saloon" and "Juvenile Dependency and Delinquency in Chicago."

## SETTLEMENT FELLOWSHIPS AND THE UNIVERSITY.

BY PROF. CHARLES H. COOLEY, University of Michigan.

Education in sociology, as in any other branch of study, should be both practical and theoretical, special and general: it should aim at the widest view of social organization and development and also at the most detailed scrutiny of every-day facts, striving all the time to bring these things together and by

uniting them to "make thought solid and life wise." Fact and theory are complementary and neither has any healthy existence separate from the other.

#### ACADEMIC BREADTH NECESSARY TO SOCIAL SANITY.

On the one hand I believe thoroughly in the importance of large, sane, general conceptions of human life and institutions, as a basis for right thinking on particular problems, and especially as tending to correct the fiercely narrow views that sometimes result from the prolonged contemplation of particular wrongs. There is no state of things so bad as to make insanity a merit; and the strenuous practical worker is so much the more efficient and influential if he can see his affair in reasonable perspective as part of a whole which immensely transcends it. Fanaticism may have its uses, but it brings derision and discredit upon reform to a degree which must tend considerably to retard it. This is perhaps the strong point of the university man and of university teaching: they are seldom fanatical. Academic life gives every encouragement, through familiarity with books, through conversation with men of various culture and through a not too stringent personal situation, for acquiring and maintaining the large view. It seems, from conversation with people engaged in the direction of philanthropical undertakings, that this breadth of view is recognized by them as a result of university training and as a very valuable part of the outfit of a practical philanthropist.

#### TOUCH WITH LIFE INDISPENSABLE TO SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY.

The weakness of a purely academic study of sociology lies, no doubt, in the liability to lose that immediate and life-imparting touch with social need which ought to send a continuous current of warm human feeling and purpose through every channel of larger thought. I do not see how a man can be a competent sociologist except as he has normal sympathies and exercises them by contact with life. It is through sympathy, and through that only, that we apprehend the personal facts without which other facts have no meaning. I think, however, that the traditional notion of the seclusion of university life is scarcely applicable to the American university. The leading men on the faculties of these institutions are men of the world, and will compare favorably with merchants or lawyers in the variety of their experience.

#### VALUE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SETTLEMENT FELLOWSHIP.

At any rate it is in this regard, in maintaining contact with a wider life, that an institution like the Commons Fellowship contributes most directly to the being of the University of Michigan. To have a member of our community return from the Commons after four or five months of familiar contact with conditions on the West Side of Chicago, brim-full of first-hand facts and feeling, is a noteworthy factor in renewing and energizing our interest in this phase of life. We are glad to get the returning Fellow to talk before our Journal Club—composed of instructors and students in economics, history and sociology—and various other organizations. In this way his (or her) conclusions and experiences are communicated and discussed and brought to bear, in one way or another, upon the opinions and actions of a large number. I know, for instance, that a great deal of light upon the saloon question has been shed among us by the researches of Mr. Melendy and Mr. Harrison.

The effect of this is not measurable, but it is real and important, and from the university point of view it is most desirable there should be more of it. It is to be hoped that as people come to understand better the value of face-to-face study of social conditions we may find it practicable to increase the number of settlement fellowships. Certainly in no branch of study are the opportunities for original and effective work greater than in sociology. Considering how much interest there is in the social problems it is surprising how little careful and unbiased investigation they have received. The literature is mostly partisan. Among shelvesful of books upon the liquor question it was impossible, until the appearance of the volumes now being issued by the Committee of Fifty, to find trustworthy information relating to it. When trustworthy information appears it is appreciated, as may be seen by the success of these and other studies of a similar reliable and thorough character.

It would seem that when the nature of the work that can be done by university students in settlements comes to be better understood there should be more money forthcoming to support fellowships and more students of first-rate ability desiring to accept the opportunities they offer.

You are to go the road which you see to be the straight one, carrying whatever you find is given you to carry, as well and as stoutly as you can, without making faces or calling people to come and look at you.—*Ruskin*.

## A STUDENT'S EXPERIENCE

In Settlement Residence—Its Value to His Fellow Students.

BY ROYAL LOREN MELENDY.

New Castle, Colo.

To the student holding this Fellowship, the benefits derived are of immediate and lifelong value. There is a difficulty, however, in pointing out certain definite results, arising from the fact that they are so numerous and varied, that they differ so widely from the results of an ordinary course of study, and that they depend largely upon the personality of the student.

The Chicago Commons, the home of the student throughout the period covered by his Fellowship, is in the very heart of the industrial district, in one of the river wards of Chicago. It is probable that no better laboratory for the study of the social problems of America exists than this same district. Here, as from upturned strata, he may discover what have been some of the forces that brought about the present conditions, and some of the agencies now at work in the formation of the future.

But imagine the strange plight of the student turned loose in this immense laboratory. His whole life having been spent in the atmosphere of the schoolroom, he has become accustomed to see only, or largely, thro the eyes of others, and to attach undue importance to the printed page. There is now no professor at his elbow, to direct his every action—no text book outlining his course. After a few days spent seemingly to no purpose, he selects, with the aid of Prof. Graham Taylor, his thesis for study and research. Gradually, as he follows out some general plan which he has roughly outlined, the whole method of investigating the subject unfolds itself, and the very streets, hitherto only strange to him, begin to unlock their secrets, until the commonest incidents of daily life—the children playing—snatches of conversation in the crowd—even the names over the saloons—are teeming with ideas and suggestions. His whole world has enlarged, and not only in the study and in the lecture room, but everywhere—at every turn—he is now confronted with problems of society from which he cannot escape. This newly acquired habit of original research, stimulating the power of observation—this emancipation from the necessarily restricted and stereotyped method of the classroom—is the first and chief benefit to the student.

Second, and closely allied to this, is a change

in his point of view. He now sees things as they are, not as he supposed they were. A veritable flood of newly discovered facts rushes upon him, almost overwhelming him, and sweeps away a host of theories and preconceived ideas which he had hitherto never doubted or even questioned. The immediate result may be beneficial—it may not. It may leave him bewildered, sceptical, pessimistic. But if he be a strong, capable man, he will be enabled to rebuild his theories in the light of new truths that have been revealed. The benefit I desire to point out lies, not in any change of theory (he may still be wrong), not in the acquisition of new facts, but in his changed attitude toward the reception of any theory or statement. He must now weigh evidences carefully—he cannot be a dogmatist.

Among the secondary but by no means unimportant benefits, are the acquaintance—possibly the fellowship—with men and women of ideas, men and women who not only possess, but are possessed by, their ideas; an increased faculty of address, and, in truth, almost boundless opportunities for larger development than are open to the student. But, as above stated, all depends upon the personality of the student. He must be endowed with the capacity for growth.

The facts that the Students' Christian Association of the University of Michigan has established and successfully maintained the first and thus far the only University Fellowship at the Chicago Commons, that this Fellowship is officially recognized by the University, not only in the appointment of the Fellow, but in the granting of "credit" for the thesis presented, greatly enhance the value of the "S. C. A." in the eyes of the entire student body. The Chicago Commons is a living sermon from the text, "The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us." The annual address of its founder and warden, delivered before one of the largest audiences gathered in Ann Arbor, together with the continued presence among them of the former incumbent of the Fellowship, who has now become an enthusiastic exponent of the same great truths, have effected in a marked degree both the method and the spirit of the work of the Students' Christian Association.

"He who cannot feel the humanity of his neighbor because he is different from himself in education, habits, opinions, morals, circumstances, objects, is unfit, if not unworthy, to aid him."—George Macdonald in "*Robert Falconer*," p. 374.

## THE JUVENILE COURT OF CHICAGO.

BY EDITH I. CLARKE.

The establishment of a separate court for children in Chicago has attracted very wide attention. Not only have foreign countries sent for copies of the juvenile court law, but representatives of these countries have visited the court and have studied its workings.

## HOW CRIMINALS USED TO BE MANUFACTURED.

Before this law went into operation, the troubled child life of the city was in a deplorable condition. Boys whose worst fault was that they liked to run away from school were tried and convicted in the same court room and at the same time as the worst of confirmed criminals. When they were arrested they were put into the police station to spend the night with all sorts of rogues and tramps. They were sentenced to confinement for small offenses and were considered criminals. One of the most dangerous features of the old system was that these mischievous little fellows were committed to the same prisons where grown up men were kept. They even were sometimes put in the same cells with the worst knaves. The effect of all this upon the boys is apparent.

Many a child has been driven to hopeless discouragement by having his thoughtless mistakes considered tokens of criminality.

## THE NEW AND BETTER WAY DESCRIBED.

Under the new law, no child under the age of sixteen years is to be considered a criminal. They are treated as children and are sent to the John Worthy school, where no men are committed.

The juvenile court is held in a room of the court house set aside for that purpose. Judge Tuthill, one of the judges of the Circuit Court, was appointed to preside in the trials of the juvenile cases. His wisdom, careful examination of details, and firmness, blended with kindness, have done much to make the new court the success that it has proved to be.

The law went into operation July 1, 1899, but for the first two months only delinquent cases came before the judge and jury. The court has been working now for over a year and ample opportunity has been afforded to judge of the efficacy of its work. The same methods have been used throughout the year.

On Monday mornings, beginning at ten o'clock, the dependent cases are heard. These include the cases of children who are homeless or neglected in their homes.

## COURT SCENES.

Entering the court room by a side door at the back of the room, the first thing a visitor notices is a motley crowd of men, women and babies seated near the door. Ten or twelve different nationalities are generally represented by this crowd. It cannot fail to arouse the emotions of a sympathetic observer to look into the faces of the different individuals. So few give evidences of a happy, peaceful life, but almost all show unmistakably that they have been worsted in the struggles of life, that hopes have been crushed, that discouragement and bitterness hold full sway in their lives. Between this group of people and the desk at the front of the room are to be seen the officers of the court hurrying around to see that everything is in readiness for the coming session. In front of the desk sit the six men on the jury. They are present merely as a matter of form, but seldom are appealed to. They sit facing the judge's chair, and at their right is a raised platform with two tiers of chairs occupied by poor, neglected children. Any mother's heart would ache to see the ill-clad forlorn little ones sitting there, sadly awaiting the disposition of the court.

Shortly after ten o'clock Judge Tuthill enters and ascends his platform to his desk, where he sits in a large arm-chair. As the different cases are called, the witnesses come forward, are sworn, and give their testimony in the usual manner. Mr. F. L. Barnett, states-attorney, and Lawyer T. D. Hurley, President of the Visitation and Aid Society, ask questions of witnesses and assist the judge in finding out the facts in the case.

Sorrowful life stories of almost every description are brought out during the trials of these children. During the lock-out of the building trades that has troubled Chicago for so many months, it was of quite frequent occurrence to have whole families of children declared dependent and made wards of the State because the father was utterly unable to get work or means of supporting his family. On one occasion six or seven little children, brothers and sisters, walked out of the court room holding hands, the oldest one leading the others and all of them sobbing and crying as tho their hearts would break.

At another time, a mother begged to have her children left in her care, but they were taken from her by force because it was proved that she was too low and degraded, too neglectful of them, to be a fit guardian of her four little ones.

These two cases represent the two classes of dependent children, those whose parents cannot care for them but would like to, and those whose parents are entirely unfit to care for them.

If the judge decides that a child should be declared dependent, it is either adopted by some family, is sent directly to some suitable institution, or is given into the custody of either the Visitation and Aid Society, if Catholic; or the Children's Home and Aid Society, if Protestant. These societies generally keep the child in some institution temporarily until a good family home can be found for it.

The court is open for the trial of delinquent children on Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons. It is hard to determine which is more interesting, the Monday morning session or one of the afternoon sessions. The trial of delinquent children is much less formal than of dependents. This is arranged in order that the boys may not be too much awed to tell what they know. The jury is dispensed with. In the same seats which are occupied by defendants Monday mornings, sit the delinquent boys, usually from ten to twenty of them. When the cases are called the little fellows, sometimes two or three at a time, go to the judge's desk and he talks with them in a kind, fatherly way that ought to win the confidence of any child. Some of the boys are only nine years old and only the tops of their heads can be seen above the desk.

If the boy is penitent and it has been his first offense, he has another trial but is put under the friendly care of a probation officer, whose business it is to visit his home and school or place of business and keep a careful supervision over him until she is assured that he will try to behave better. If the judge decides that a second trial will not be the best thing for a child, he sends him to John Worthy Reform School, where he will be made to study and where he will have a chance to reform.

The charges most frequently brought against boys are larceny and truancy. Judge Tuthill generally gives them some good advice and earnest admonition. He also talks with the parents or guardians, who stand behind the boys during the trial. He urges the parents to take more interest in their children and to gain their confidence.

There are only six active general probation officers of the juvenile court. If paid at all, it is from private sources, as the state has made no provision for their support. Mr. Hurley is the head probation officer. The six are all women, one of them a colored woman,

whose faithful, untiring service is of untold value. All the colored children are given over to her care. These women spend whole days in visiting their boys, getting reports from their teachers and employers, encouraging and helping their parents, and, in general, being a friend to the families.

Very few girls are brought before the court as delinquents. They are usually charged with immorality, and are sent to some good institution for the care of female offenders.

The earnest, conscientious work of the juvenile court has brought about astonishing results during the past year, and hundreds of children have been placed in a condition where they will have a chance to become noble, educated men and women.

#### STUDENT CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES AT NEWBERRY HALL.

Thro the courtesy of the officers of the Students' Christian Association of the University of Michigan, we are enabled to present the following brief summary of religious and social activities centering at their spacious and homelike building, a picture of which we are happy to print.

Newberry Hall, the home of the Association, is a beautiful building of boulder stone, erected at an expense of \$36,000 and dedicated free of debt. The ladies' and gentlemen's parlors are always open, and offer all the advantages of a club home to every student. The library of over 1,200 volumes is open all day and every day. The Michigan and Chicago newspapers, and the leading religious papers of the United States, are to be found on its reading tables.

There is an auditorium seating 550 people, and there are three prayer meeting rooms, where various services of the Association are held.

Once a week Newberry Hall is a center of jollity and merriment. Every Friday night the Association entertains its friends and every student is invited. And it really entertains them, too, for S. C. A. socials are a feature of college life at Ann Arbor. The first Friday night of the college year is the great opening reception, attended by large numbers of the faculty, and crowds of students.

In addition to the religious and Bible class group meetings, which include no less than 250 students, a series of special addresses has been provided for, representing settlement and

other social service being rendered in eastern and western cities. Every Sunday afternoon a group of cheery young people meet the patients of the hospital in the clinic room. Speakers' stand and singers' organ replace the operation tables, and a bright hour is spent in conference and song. After the service they go from ward to ward with flowers and music, bringing light and cheer into the lot of many of the patients. Another group of members engage in Sunday school work in "Lower Town," maintaining in connection with it a good reading room and Young People's Society. Still another group find their way out to the County Farm to hold a service regularly every Sunday afternoon. Preaching in surrounding pulpits and schoolhouses is supplied by the young men. An employment bureau has furnished opportunity for partial or entire self-support to over sixty students within the opening week of the term. Nearly one-fifth of the whole student body are included in the membership of this Association. Many of the special addresses delivered by members of the faculty and others at the meetings held under the auspices of the Association have been printed in a most inspiring volume entitled, "Religious Life of the University of Michigan."

#### OUTLINES OF MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP INVESTIGATIONS.

The character, scope thoroughness, as well as the practical and academic value of the original investigations pursued by the last two incumbents of the Michigan University social settlement fellowship at Chicago Commons, may be indicated by the bare abstract of their very full reports presented to the University and the settlement.

Grateful recognition is hereby made of the cordial co-operation, generous courtesies, and invaluable advantages received at the hands of the judge and officers of the Juvenile Court, the Children's Home and Aid Society, the police and public health departments of the city of Chicago, the representatives of fraternal and other organizations, and many private individuals who have thus placed both the student-investigators and Chicago Commons under many personal obligations to them.

The full text of Mr. Melendy's report will be published in a forthcoming volume on "The Ethical Aspects of the Liquor Problem," soon to be issued from the press of Houghton, Mifflin & Co., by the "Committee of Fifty," for whom the investigation was made under the auspices of Chicago Commons.

#### MR. ROYAL LOREN MELENDY'S REPORT ON "ETHICAL SUBSTITUTES FOR THE SALOON IN CHICAGO."

- I. The saloon in general, including a descriptive definition.
- II. The saloon specialized to meet the demand in workingmen's districts, business men's districts, and suburban districts, including specific investigations of free lunches, social and recreative features and the provisions for toilet and other necessities of life.
- III. Descriptive classification of substitutes for the social function of the saloon. (1) Voluntary associations, including fraternal organizations, turn vereins and singing societies, trades unions, boys' clubs, church societies, and social settlements. (2) Amusement enterprises, including theaters, parks, and billiard halls. (3) Lodging houses, lunch counters, and reading rooms. (4) Special substitutes—the Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Associations, the Young Men's Institutes, the Salvation Army and the Volunteers of America, the "Home Saloon", the proposed coffee houses.
- IV. The conclusion, recapitulating the facts canvassed, accounting for the existence of the saloon, and affecting the nature of the substitute for it.
- V. Appendix, containing the response to inquiries made by representatives of the various interests and agencies involved, including the report made by the police of the saloons, their patronage, and the arrests made in them in each precinct; of the billiard halls and their patronage, and the total number of churches in each precinct; of the lodging houses and their average accommodation; of the theaters, their attendance, and the kind of entertainment provided by them.

[Excerpts from this report will appear in our next issue.]

#### MISS EDITH I. CLARKE'S REPORT ON "JUVENILE DEPENDENCY AND DELINQUENCY IN CHICAGO."

Introduction, including bibliography and other sources of information.

- I. Juvenile delinquency and dependency before the establishment of the Juvenile Court.
- II. Agencies combined to bring the conditions before the public, including the efforts of individuals and those of labor unions, charity conferences, Federation of Women's Clubs, and the Chicago Bar Association.
- III. Result of the agitation in the child labor law, compulsory education law, juvenile court law and parental school law, all of which are summarized.
- IV. The Juvenile Court, its treatment of the dependent and delinquent child described; its probation officers; the results of its work to date.
- V. Agencies for the care of children, societies and institutions.
- VI. The causes of dependency and delinquency—the inability of parents, due to sickness, death, poverty, divorce; the deficiency of parents, due to desertion, intemperance, immorality, shiftlessness, indifference; the weakness of the marriage tie and bad legislation. Delinquency is due to the disagreement, ignorance or neglect of parents, heredity, the environment of bad housing and evil associates, truancy, physical, mental or moral weakness of the child.
- VII. Ideal treatment of juvenile delinquency and dependency by the encouragement and strengthening of the home tie, by institutions for temporary care of children, by placing the child out in private families under the supervision of the State.

## WAY-MARKS OF THE LABOR MOVEMENT.

The Fifteenth Annual Report of the Kansas Bureau of Labor is an exhaustive investigation into wage earner statistics, labor organizations, packing, creamery and lead and zinc industries, county charities, industrial education, factory inspection, strikes, labor difficulties and court decisions of the past year in the state of Kansas.

The New Zealand Parliament at its last session passed a minimum wage law, prescribing a minimum wage for children under 18. The object of the law is to correct a long-standing abuse in the apprentice system. A custom had grown up among employers of taking children into their employ to "learn the trade" on a basis of no wages for the first twelve months and then turn them adrift to take on other apprentices on the same terms.

The law of May 10, 1900, passed by the Belgian Parliament provides for Belgium a system of Old Age pensions, or rather the Act provides a state subsidy in aid of old age insurance. By the provisions of the Act any one purchasing an annuity in the General Fund, which provides annuities calculated on a three per cent. basis, compound interest, a maximum bonus of 7.2 francs per year. Any member whose subscription to the fund is greater than 360 francs is considered in the distribution of the subsidy.

The Bulletin of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of New York for September shows that on June 30th the aggregate membership of the Labor Unions in New York state was nearly 250,000, the last three months of the year showing an increase in the number of unions and in the membership greater than at any time in the history of trades unionism. A most encouraging feature is the report that the number of female unionists has more than doubled in the past three years, altho still confined almost entirely to New York City.

When the supply of cotton cloth on hand so exceeded the current demand that manufacturers were intending to reduce either the output of their mills or the wages of the operatives, Mr. M. C. D. Borden, of Fall River, Mass., invested so heavily in the product as to keep the mills running and thus relieve the situation. In forcing the other manufacturers to continue operating at a reduced profit to themselves he has incurred their enmity, and a year ago was balked by them in his attempt to relieve the market. At that time he raised the wages at his own mills ten per cent and kept the mills running on full time. Recently he

has contracted with the other manufacturers to buy a portion of their product weekly for a period of twenty-five weeks to assure the continuance of work for the Fall River operatives without a cut in either wages or time. Mr. Borden's buying comes at a time when a cut was threatened, which would probably have resulted in a most serious strike. In four crises he has thus come to the rescue of the workers.

The return of John Burns to Parliament after one of the most exciting of political campaigns is a notable triumph for the cause of labor in England. John Burns has opposed most ably the policy of the government in South Africa, and by so doing won the hostility of the reactionary party. It was confidently predicted that the attitude of the great English labor leader meant his defeat. His election by an increased majority over his majority of 1895 is a signal triumph of the saner and juster policies for which John Burns has stood in the face of the wave of imperialistic enthusiasm that seems to have dulled the moral sense of a justice-loving people.

The New York Court of appeals decided in the case of National Protective Association of Steam Fitters and Helpers vs. Enterprise Association, decided in July, 1900, affirmed the right of trade unionists to refuse to work with non-members, and to strike if non-union members were not discharged, dissolving an injunction granted by the lower court restraining appellant or any of its members from coercing the dismissal of members of the appellee. The court said in dissolving the injunction: "It cannot be seriously questioned but that every workman has the right, in the first instance, to say for whom and with whom he will work. \* \* An employer has the absolute right to say whom he will employ and the employee has the right to say by whom he will be employed. The right is reciprocal, and once that right is destroyed, personal liberty is destroyed and class rights. \* \* It cannot be questioned but that one may by lawful means obtain employment either for himself or another. He may procure the discharge by lawful means of another person in order that he may obtain employment either for himself or another. What the workman may do in his individual capacity he may do collectively."

An important decision has just been rendered by Judge Holdom of the Superior Court of Cook county. It affirms the invalid of the assignment of unearned wages. A source of very great oppression among the laboring classes of Chicago has been the "loan shark,"

who making advances under the pressure of liabilities that must be immediately met, takes an assignment of wages yet to be earned, charging interest at the rate of from five to ten per cent. per month, and renewing the contract from time to time as long as the wage-earner has employment. The laborer who is once forced to resort to the "loan shark" for temporary accommodation is compelled to pay several times the original debt in interest, and is held in a condition of dependence. Judge Holdom adheres to the early common law rule that an assignment of an expectancy is void both at law and in equity.

A "Christian Union" of mechanics and factory laborers has been organized in Berlin, with these objects in view: 1. To regulate the relation of employers to employes on the basis of Christian morality and Christian love to the neighbor, and to work for the general improvement of the condition of the laboring classes. 2. To promote the mental development of its members, and to obtain light on economic questions. 3. To make strenuous efforts for the removal of unfavorable conditions in factories and workshops, so far as they are injurious to health and opposed to the moral law of Christianity. 4. To help in developing the laws which protect laborers and to secure their proper enforcement. 5. To further the establishment of trade unions on a Christian basis, and to give aid to the members in legal contests arising from labor contracts.

#### THE CHICAGO LOCKOUT SITUATION.

No broader minded, more just or intelligent opinions on the long-strained labor situation in Chicago have been uttered from the employers' and capitalists' point of view than in the columns of *Domestic Engineering*, the able and enterprising weekly devoted to the plumbing, heating, lighting and ventilating interests. Its summing up of the situation to date is so identical with the views we have advanced that we quote from its issue for October 6 and 13 instead of making any statement of our own:

"While at present writing, no agreement has been reached by the masters and journeymen in the plumbing and steam fitting branches of the building trades the apparent willingness of both sides to negotiate terms of peace is at least an improvement on the apparent apathy recently displayed, and augurs well for the final settlement upon a mutually satisfactory basis.

Two new elements have entered into and very materially changed the situation. The retirement of Carroll from the presidency of the Building Trades Council is the removal of a serious stumbling block in the way of a conciliation of the master plumbers, Carroll being personally obnoxious to them, while the election of President Schardt puts at the head of affairs a man who is trusted by masters as well as journeymen—a man with whom the masters will be more willing to treat.

A second and most important element is the growing willingness of the masters to treat with the journeymen, on a basis other than the

latter's absolute withdrawal from a central form of organization. As stated in our last issue this demand of the masters has been practically the only bone of contention for some time past. Now the masters come forward with a proposition which concedes to the journeyman the right of belonging to a central council similar to but different in organization from the present Building Trades Council. The plan is that sixteen unions recognized by the contractors as peculiarly building trades shall withdraw simultaneously from the Council and reorganize themselves into a new council from which shall be excluded the unions which are not so recognized. Nothing seems to stand in the way now but foolish pride in the rebellious hearts of a few men who have put themselves on record and cannot see any way to change their position honorably. This is true of masters and journeymen. In the Building Contractors' Council there are a few men who have borne the brunt of the executive work of the fight, and who have uncompromisingly taken the position that there could be no settlement until the Building Trades Council should dissolve. To these men it is undoubtedly hard to let up one jot or tittle in their demand. But, speaking for the plumbing trade, we know we state the feeling of a majority of the conservative element when we say they are heartily sick of the uncompromising methods of those in control of the Building Contractors' Council, and would welcome a more conciliatory course. They cannot see the justice in demanding their journeymen to abandon a central form of organization, while they maintain such an organization themselves. Nor is this position a tenable one. The public is not with the contractors on that proposition. The only possible argument which they can justly put forth as to why the Building Trades Council should be done away with is that it has been badly officered, and managed arbitrarily, which is true. With better officers in control of the Building Trades Council, could not the Building Contractors' Council waive a point in its demand for the abolition of the council, and extend the olive branch, and by conciliatory methods effect a settlement?

It seems to us this could be done without any injury to pride and with a vast help to business.

The public has a right to demand that the contractors end the fight. It suffers seriously in a way it does not suspect. It is true there is some plumbing work being done by non-union journeymen, but there is no doubt it is nearly all badly done. Non-union men are not, as a rule, as competent as union men, and their work is very unsatisfactory to the master plumbers, who know what good work is and who want to do it. Some of the botch work done in Chicago by non-union plumbers would be laughable were it not a serious menace to health. Among the men who have been working this summer have been a number of master plumbers who were willing to go out of business and work for their fellow-associates, and some of the worst work has been done by them.

A little gentle courtesy, a little forgiveness, a little humility, and a little justice between master and man should end this detestable condition of affairs before October has passed."

## CHICAGO COMMONS FREE FLOOR LABOR DISCUSSIONS.

### OPENING OF THEIR SIXTH YEAR.

Descriptive Sketch of these  
Unique Gatherings.

BY JOHN P. GAVITT.

For some time their chairman.



THE AFTERMATH OF A KNOTTY PROBLEM.

In the saloons of the poorer districts, as in the clubs of the more prosperous, men gather in groups to discuss the topics and interests of the day. These discussions are characterized by absolute freedom of speech and democracy of personnel. Every shade of belief, social, political, religious, from *laissez faire* individualism back to force-anarchism, from communist socialism to survival of the fittest, from ultra-conservative catholicism to "free thought," find expression in those hand-to-hand disputes of neighborhood opinion. It was the most obvious opportunity of the settlement, as regards the men of the community, to offer place and occasion for just such a free discussion, apart from the environment and temptations of the saloon.

Out of precisely this need and this opportunity has grown to notable and all but famous success "the Chicago Commons Tuesday Meeting." It is at once a most useful, a most far-reaching, and the least understood feature of the settlement's work. Those who characterize it as a "nest of anarchists," those who think of, and visit it as some sort of a social circus, and those who regard it as a weak-kneed apology for a religious meeting, alike fail to discern its purpose and its value, alike misunderstand and misrepresent it.

#### A NEUTRAL MEETING GROUND.

The "Tuesday Meeting" is none of these things. It is the settlement's deliberate proposition that all classes of men, all shades of

thought, all degrees of prosperity and of culture, shall for once come face to face and "have it out." It calls men out of their corners where they nurse their grievances and brood social distrust and potential disorder, to bring their discontent and their theory of social salvation into the light of day, for full examination and frank discussion. Assuming the good faith and good intentions of the average man, it offers one of the few oases of self-conscious democracy in the wilderness of social confusion and industrial chaos, where distinctions of class and caste may be ignored, and mere human manhood may be the title to free speech and frank opinion.

Four years of experience have proved to the men who attend the meeting the good faith of the settlement, and they characterize it as "the freest floor in Chicago." With only so much of organization as is implied in the presence of one of the men of the settlement as chairman, yet subject to the vote of the meeting, an orderly, intensely interested and interesting weekly meeting continues from October to June. The business man and the anarchist, the minister and the agnostic, the socialist and the single taxer, the woman suffragist and her eternally protesting anti-suffrage sister, all have equal rights on the floor under the simple rules of mutual consideration, adherence to the subject under discussion, unrestricted free speech, all sides, no favor, and a reasonable time limit, which the meeting can extend at its pleasure.

## LAST SEASON'S PROGRAM.

EDWARD PAYSON, "Trusts;" MRS. CORINNES BROWN, "Economic Independence of Women;" JAMES MORTON, JR., Editor of *Free Society*, San Francisco, "Ideal Anarchy."

New Year Social Meeting (Conversazione), "Retrospect and Outlook;" HOWARD L. SMITH, Secretary Anti-Imperialist League, "Imperialism—The New Peril of the Republic;" PROF. W. D. MACKENZIE, "The War in the Transvaal Country;" THOMAS I. KIDD, Secretary Amalgamated Wood-Workers, "If I Were the Devil?" A. M. SIMONS, Editor *The Workers' Call*, Chicago, "The Climax of Capitalism."

D. D. THOMPSON, "Some Great Social Reformers;" CLARENCE S. DARROW, "Leo Tolstoy;" JOHN P. GAVIT, "Patriotism;" EDWARD T. KEYES, of Right Relationship League, Chicago, "Socializing a Country Town."

THOMAS J. MORGAN, "The Paris Commune;" J. HOWARD MOORE, "Physical Unity of Man and Animals;" S. G. LINDHOLM, "Conditions in the Tailors' Trade."

WILLIAM THOMPSON, "Rights of the Poor Under the Law;" Social Meeting; R. M. SPRINGER, Secretary Liberty Alliance, "The Peril of Monarchism."

DR. MAURICE F. DOTY, "Government Control League;" RUDOLPH A. MORRIS, "Rule of the Small Middle Class;" FRANK H. MCCULLOUGH, "Some Facts About the Status of Corporations;" Closing Social.

## CONCERNING THE MEETING IN GENERAL.

It is unfair, however, to characterize the settlement by this meeting. The entire work can no more be judged by it than the character of a church should be judged by one Bible-class. It occupies but two hours out of a tremendously busy week. Nor is it permissible to ask for tabulated results. If the question of religious teachings be raised—the most intense interest and feeling always attaches to the deepest ethical and religious questions, which will not down. The discussion of the historicity of the life of Jesus lasted till past midnight, and nearly every meeting elicits some aspect of the ethical problem. The first meetings generated tremendous heat and personal bitterness; that is now a thing of the long past. Mutual toleration and respect, and no small modification of opinion has taken place.

## A CHARACTERISTIC ANECDOTE.

Let one anecdote serve as illustration. It is taken from an article by Prof. Taylor in *THE COMMONS*.\*

The battle was on between socialism and individualism. An eminent socialist leader, from the workingmen's own ranks, had presented his argument, when a stranger to the men (not a "workingman") arose and thus took up the gauntlet that had been thrown down before all comers:

"I am tired of hearing this 'brotherhood' talk among workingmen, and this appeal to

the stronger to help the weaker. By force all things that exist are evolved, maintained, perpetuated. In nature, only the fit survive. Everywhere and always the debilitated perish. Everywhere and always the mightiest have won. Black, furious and tragic are the bloody annals of Man's evolution. In business and in industry competition must be to the death. The strongest beast gets the biggest bone. Might is master—it ought to be—for progress depends upon its triumph. With the *normal* man it is a pleasure to struggle, a pastime to fight, and nothing is sweeter to him than to confiscate his confiscator and surpass his surpasser; to smite his enemy, hip and thigh, and to spoil him of that of which he has despoiled others. The normal man prefers to eat others rather than to be eaten. Only with the abnormal man it is otherwise. He is of the mob. He sheepishly obeys public opinion. He is of a 'flock.' Might is right, absolutely, unreservedly. The chief intent of false religions and false moralisms is to arrest competition half way, in order to safeguard degenerates in possessing that which they could neither seize nor defend, if competition were unlimited.

"The Golden Rule," he continued, "never has been, is not, and never will be practicable. It is a lying dream. Grim and harsh all this may appear to nervous souls, but is it not true to nature?"

It is not within the province of our present purpose to describe the effect upon our own or other minds of this inhuman declaration of what the speaker was pleased to call the "Philosophy of Power." But it does subserve the object for which this incident has been cited to note the fact that for the first time in the writer's long observation, this particular group of radically disagreeing men was instantly, by the shock to common human instinct, welded into unanimity, expressing itself first in startled silence, then in awestruck murmurs of disavowal, finally in the common consent of indignant protest.

## THE SOCIALIST'S RETORT.

The socialist arose to say his final word and close the discussion.

"There is in nature," said he, "as Drummond teaches us, a struggle for the life of others, as surely as for the life of self. This mother instinct prevails in every realm of life. The hyena type of animal shows it least." And pointing his finger at the stranger, he exclaimed: "That man's evolution seems to have been arrested at the hyena stage!

"This is not the power impelling human

\*From *THE COMMONS*, March, 1897. Reprinted here in response to many requests.—ED. COMMONS.

progress! Have the best things of the world been prompted by selfishness and achieved by competition? Are the highest things that man possesses in art, literature and music, thro discovery and invention, either the product or the possession of this brute force? No, no, no! The struggle for the life of others, not selfishness, the co-operation of brothers, not the competition of beasts, have given the world its best things. Our common possessions only have proven fittest to survive."

And with tears in his tone he concluded: "It was to get out of all of us the beast which we see in that man yonder that He who gave us the Golden Rule died on the cross, and it makes a fellow's heart full to think of it!"

#### THIS SEASON'S SESSIONS.

Our Free Floor discussions opened October 2 with a "Conversational Social" led by Bayard Holmes, M. D., who gave a charming description of his fellowship with the Ober Ammergau villagers who have recently re-enacted the Passion Play. The animated conversation which lasted over two hours was of rarest and most unique interest. We are now in the midst of a campaign symposium in which leading representatives of the Democratic, Republican, Social-Democratic and Prohibition parties present the claims of their respective platforms and candidates, answer questions, open and close discussions. These meetings are still held Tuesday evenings at the old residence, 140 North Union street, but will fill the large Assembly Hall in our new building, Grand avenue and Morgan street, when it is opened in December. Both men and women are welcome.

#### FORTHCOMING SETTLEMENT BIBLIOGRAPHY.

The new edition of the Bibliography of College Social and University Settlements, which Mrs. Caroline Williamson Montgomery is editing for the College Settlement Association, goes to press this month and will be ready for distribution before December. The number of settlements listed is about the same as in 1897, the gains balancing the losses. The literature of the settlement movement, however, has nearly doubled. The settlement ideas as adapted to country districts, is making headway. Fresh interest in the new settlements in Paris, New South Wales, and elsewhere will be awakened by this volume. Orders in advance, inclosing ten cents per copy, should be sent to Miss Mabel G. Curtis, 829 Boylston street, Boston, Mass., or to THE COMMONS, 140 North Union Street, Chicago.

#### SETTLEMENT LIFE AND LITERATURE.

CHICAGO.—The Helen Heath Settlement has opened up its winter's work with four resident and seventeen non-resident workers.

Miss Mary D. Hill, curator of the Textile Museum at Hull House, extends an invitation to all interested to inspect the work.

Gad's Hill Social Settlement formally opened up their winter's work by a general reception for teachers and pupils Tuesday, October 16th. A musical program and an address by Supt. Mark M. Thompson completed the evening.

The opening of the winter's work at the Maxwell Street Settlement has been much delayed on account of the Jewish holidays. The house has been redecorated and everything is in order for the winter activities, and a cordial invitation comes to those who are interested to visit the house. The kindergarten was opened last week with Miss Martha Simons in charge of twenty-five children.

Doctor Dorothea Moore, formerly of Hull House, and now head worker of the San Francisco Settlement, reports interesting evidence of the success of the latter in the near completion of its new building. Two four-story brick buildings, remodeled so as to be one structure, and a new gymnasium adjoining, will provide forty rooms and a fine equipment.

Altogether the most tastefully designed and printed settlement report that has come to THE COMMONS this year is that of the Goodrich Social Settlement, Cleveland, Ohio. In addition to the third annual statement regarding its growing work and the large use of its superb equipment, the pamphlet contains a carefully selected and convenient bibliography for the use of residents and helpers.

Kingsley House *Record* reports a change in their banking system. The stamp account is now supplemented with a book account. The bank is opened one night each week with a competent man in charge and one assistant. The bank is working on a basis now that is more satisfactory than ever before. In event of a stamp book being lost, the demands of the depositor can be verified by the book account.

The first issue of Hale House *Log*, Boston is out and will be published bi-monthly except during the summer. The first copy is devoted to the summer activities, camps, picnics and outings. The Natural History Club is an interesting feature. The Club during the spring and summer had field excursions to different points of interest round Boston, a small

party spending a few days at Wood's Holl. Animal life was studied in the tide pools at Nahant and a spider hunt at Muddy Pond woods proved interesting. The Club will be continued during the winter. Success to the Hale House Log.

A social center has been established among the Russian and Polish Jews of Milwaukee by cultivated and public-spirited Hebrew circles in the city, which it is hoped will become a settlement by the residence of some of them in the needy quarter.

The Wage-Earners' Self Culture Club of St. Louis has entered on its thirteenth year. The formal openings at each of their branch halls were held the last of September. The lecture season is being opened with public two-sided debates on the questions of the day. A successful Men's Glee Club is reported.

The "Relation of the School and the Settlement" is the leading article in the *Hiram House Life* for May. The author, Mr. Frank Manny, finds that the two institutions must co-operate "in taking account of the actual conditions of life, and in enabling the people to meet the necessity of growth in their own lives." The church has ceased to be local in the old sense, and the school and social settlement must be looked to, to supply the centers which carry back to the workmen the results of thought and art.

### Suggestions for Settlements from Ethical Culture Schools. \* \* \*

At the opening of the working year every settlement resident is on the lookout for suggestions both theoretical and practical to help in planning the winter's work.

For such workers a close study of the prospectus of the ethical culture schools of New York for the coming year is of value.

Such names as Felix Adler and Percival Cluett suggest a breadth of work and a force of purpose most valuable to the settlement worker.

These ethical culture schools are based on this broad principle, namely, the hope to contribute to the solution of the great social problems by means of a profound reformation in the social and ethical system of education. In all the work the schools have tried to do, the moral purpose has ever been in the foreground. In a practical way the question, "To what end do we educate?" is answered ethically. One of the first courses introduced was manual training, whose altruistic side has a

strong bearing on the social life of the school. In all the departments, science, art, history (social or political), the attempt is made to enable the pupil to contribute to the progress of mankind in some one direction, and "to inspire him with the enthusiasm of progress" by keeping the evolutionary point of view in mind in the treatment of every branch of instruction. Thus, in the Department of Social History, a brief survey is undertaken of the successive systems of labor, from slavery through serfdom to the present wage-earning system, that the pupil may not have a mass of uncorrelated facts in his mind, but may carry with him a compact epitome of the world's social progress and may recognize in a broad way what has been accomplished.

The work of the pupil is planned for the teacher under two general heads. Inasmuch as what has been and what is can give no adequate clue to what ought to be, the story of progress as it has unfolded itself in the past is supplemented by the discussion of the ideals of progress. Great importance is attached to the discussion of such ideals, particularly in connection with our present social and political development.

Then, in order that the pupil may be helped and inspired to contribute to the social well-being and progress, every effort is made to discover the pupil's natural aptitude through systematic observation and to direct his attention into that line of social service in which he can most effectively contribute to progress. If the pupil can in this large way appropriate this story of struggle and striving, he can be led, unconsciously at first, consciously later, to see his own relationship to society, the relation of society to himself and the cause and effect of his work on the larger whole.

The ethical idea is not kept apart from the rest of the teaching, but is interwoven with the work in all departments and modifies the course.

Would it not be well to base the work of the class in the settlement with some of these large principles for the teachers to work for as an ultimate aim?

"There are some who desire to know with the sole purpose that they may know, and it is curiosity: and some who desire to know that they may be known, and it is base ambition: and some who desire to know that they may sell their knowledge for wealth and honor, and it is base avarice: but there are some, also, who desire to know that they may be edified, and it is prudence, and some who desire to know that they may help others, and it is charity."—S. Bernard.

## ADVERTISEMENTS

IN THE COMMONS DURING 1900.

One Page, - \$10.00. Half Page, - - \$8.00  
 Quarter Page, - 6.00. One Inch, - - .75

## New Books of Social Interest.

**The Tolling of Felix.** . . . By Henry Van Dyke.  
 A Legend on a new saying of Jesus. And other poems.  
 Charles Scribner's Sons, New York.

**The Social Meanings of Modern Religious Movements in England.**  
 . . . By Thomas C. Hall, D.D.  
 Being the Ely Lectures. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York.

**The Psychology of Religion.**  
 . . . By Edwin Diller Starbuck, Ph.D.  
 Assistant Professor of Education at Leland Stanford Junior University. With a Preface by William James, Professor of Philosophy at Harvard University. An Empirical Study of the Growth of Religious Consciousness. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. \$1.50.

**The Spiritual Life.** . . . By George A. Coe, Ph.D.  
 Professor of Moral and Intellectual Philosophy in Northwestern University. Studies in the Science of Religion. Eaton & Mains, New York. Curts & Jennings, Cincinnati. \$1.00.

**Mr. Lex.** . . . By Catherine Waugh McCulloch.  
 Of the Chicago Bar. The legal status of mother and child stated in story form, with full citations of statutes and decisions. Published by Fleming H. Revell Co.  
 The *American Journal of Sociology* says of it: "The book is well written and will undoubtedly find many readers who do not otherwise care for legal literature."  
 Price, cloth, 35c.

Address the author, Room 1104, 135 Adams St., Chicago.

**A Country Without Strikes.**  
 . . . By Henry Demarest Lloyd.  
 A visit to the Compulsory Arbitration Court of New Zealand. New York. Doubleday, Page & Co., 1900.

**The Enslavement and Emancipation of the People.** . . . By J. B. Herboldshimer.  
 Published by the Author. Price in cloth, 75 cents. J. B. Herboldshimer, 348 Unity Bldg., Chicago.

**The City for the People, or the Municipalization of the City Government and of Local Franchises.** . . . By Frank Parsons.  
 Lecturer in the Boston University Law School. Published by C. F. Taylor, 1520 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa. Cloth, \$1.00; Paper, 50c.

**Quarterly Bulletin of the Bureau of Economic Research.**  
 Devoted to Index Number of prices of Commodities, Stocks and Freight Rates. Address, John R. Commons, Director, 35 Lafayette Place, New York City. \$1.00 per year.

**The Social Gospel.** . . .  
 A Magazine of Christian Altruism. Conducted by Ralph Albertson and James P. Kelley, South Jamesboro, N. Y. \$1.00 per year.

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BY GRAHAM TAYLOR.

An Address and Discussion at the International Congregational Council in Boston, 1899.

## THE COMMONS

Is devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Social Settlement point of view.

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# THE COMMONS.

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor  
from the Social Settlement Point of View.

GRAHAM TAYLOR, - - - - - EDITOR.

Published the fifteenth of every month from CHICAGO  
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Chicago, Ill.

For particulars as to rates, terms of advertising, etc.,  
see "Publisher's Corner."

## EDITORIAL.

THIS University Fellowship number of THE COMMONS emphasizes and illustrates the university origin, the academic spirit and the educational significance of the social settlement movement. The settlement worthy of the name is more of a social center for educational purposes than anything else. It aims to promote the unification of the community by manifesting and realizing the highest social ideals thro the culture of what is or ought to be common. It is thus more closely allied with the school dominated by the democratic spirit than with any other institution. We are glad to attest upon our part what professors and students of the University of Michigan recognize from their point of view, that the increasingly real and vital relationship between the Chicago Commons and the University is of such reciprocal advantage.

BOOKS of greatest social significance do not always bear sociological titles. Some of the most original and fundamental contributions to the social sciences are being written within the domain of pedagogy and psychology, history, ethics, and theology. Of the list of volumes printed on another page two are likely to prove epoch-making books in the quiet but revolutionary influence they have already begun to exert upon ideal and action in the family and in the schools of the church. Professors Starbuck and Coe, by their original and scientific application of psychological analysis and induction to the facts of religious experience, have defined the new point of view whence parents and teachers are being prepared to see and seek to fulfil the educational function of the family and the church. Whatever effects the readjustment of home influence and church institutions to the modern pedagogical psychology will lay its social consciousness as the foundation of a better social order.

Professor Thomas C. Hall's volume interpreting the social meanings of nineteenth century religious movements in England, is preparing the way for the fulfilment of the church's larger social function in the twentieth. Not since Belfort Bax began to emphasize the "social side" of the Reformation, with a prepossession against the church which seriously conditioned the effectiveness of much good work, has there appeared a book so well calculated both by its criticism and its sympathies, to impress the reader with the economic conditions and social significance of religious movements.

WE ARE happy to report that the gift of a friend in an eastern state has enabled us to cancel the debt which has so long burdened us in publishing this paper. For the first time THE COMMONS has the chance of becoming self-sustaining. We appeal to the old friends of the paper to help us in our effort to secure both subscribers and advertisements. With the co-operation of its readers and the residents of the settlements the perpetuity of this paper in the service of the common cause, for which we all stand, can now readily be assured. If the addresses of those who are likely to become readers of THE COMMONS, are sent us, we will be glad to forward sample copies, accompanied by a circular letter stating the aims and scope of the paper. We greatly need this co-operation in the gratuitous service rendered the common cause by all who have had aught to do with this paper since it was started five years ago. Our next issue will be largely devoted to investigations of the social and ethical aspects of the liquor traffic.

## CHICAGO COMMONS IMMEDIATE NEEDS.

- \$40.00 Per month to maintain and enlarge Tabernacle Kindergarten in new building.
- \$283.83 To relieve settlement treasury from carrying deficit in Summer Outing account.
- \$300.00 For equipment of cooking school and \$25.00 per month for an expert instructor to teach plain cooking all winter.
- \$500.00 Per month to sustain the whole work until the subscriptions for 1901 are received.
- \$3,500.00 To provide shower baths, lockers and apparatus for the gymnasium.
- \$20,000.00 To build new residence wing.

## CHICAGO COMMONS ITEMS.

## INTERIOR LIFE—HOUSEHOLD VESPERS.

We open our seventh year with twenty residents, fourteen women and six men. To give a glimpse into the way our residents co-operate in the social service of the neighborhood, we detail the grouping of the workers and the work for the ensuing season. In the hands of the executive and house committees, consisting of five members each, most of the general administrative details are placed. The committee on interior life has charge of the household vespers, which, in addition to the devotional service every evening, on Mondays is devoted to reports on current topics from periodical literature or spoken discussions; Tuesdays, to readings from Mazzini and other social idealists; Wednesdays, to consecutive studies in anthropology and social psychology; Thursdays, residents in turn present subjects of their own choice; Fridays, representatives of other settlements and different forms of social work report the method and progress of their activity; Saturdays, the weekly residents' meeting is held, and on Sunday the early evening is devoted to musical vespers.

## RESIDENTS' CO-OPERATION.

The committee on educational classes tries to meet or create the demand of the neighborhood by the offer of attractive studies; social functions and occasions, altho placed in specific charge of a few of the residents, are promoted by all; the girls' clubs, boys' clubs, kindergartens, women's and men's clubs are each under the personal and continuous care of those directly identified with them; the choruses, penny provident bank and the settlement relation to the district charity bureau are fostered in the same way. New efforts are being put forth to develop the use and enjoyment of the public library, art museum and the literature in the Commons reading room. Provision for the programs of the Pleasant Sunday Afternoon and the students' monthly social settlement conference are also placed under the most competent and interested supervision. Door service and "toting," in which all of the residents engage, are headed up by the one among them who above all others is willing to do everything for everybody. The co-operation with the Tabernacle church work in the Sunday-school, Endeavor societies, social gatherings, office bearing and church membership are left to the volunteering of the individual residents, many of whom are enlisted with the neighborhood church,

some are identified with other churches and all are left absolutely free in expressing their own predilections in religion.

## REUNION OF CAMPER'S WITH ELGIN FRIENDS.

To initiate the season for the boys and girls' clubs a reunion of all who had been at the Commons' summer camp was held with the Elgin friends who had been most active and interested in promoting the profit and the pleasure of the campers. The enthusiasm and the gratitude of our girls and boys for their summer friends were as heartily tho less noisily reciprocated by them. The delightful evening of song, recitation, story and good fellowship will not soon be forgotten.

## KINDERGARTEN AND TRAINING SCHOOL.

The kindergarten and the training school opened October 2d at the old Commons with a full complement of children and a good entering class. Mrs. Bertha Hofer Hegner, principal of the school, and the warden of the Commons welcomed the young ladies to the fellowship of the house in the work for the childhood and motherhood of the neighborhood.

We hope to reopen the old Tabernacle kindergarten at once in the temporary quarters now occupied by the church, so as to have the school in readiness to remove to the spacious kindergarten quarters provided in the new building. While the training school provides for the support of the kindergarten at the old Commons, without expense to the settlement, the school in the new building will be dependent upon the gifts of its friends. We need at least forty dollars a month to maintain it among a people who greatly need its ministry, only a few of whose children are provided for in the public school kindergartens. In both schools the parents contribute what they can toward the expense of maintaining them.

## COOKING CLASSES NEED ASSISTANT.

One of the most needed and most successful branches of our settlement work is the teaching of plain cooking. The demand for it which has sprung up at the offer of the supply has outgrown the volunteer force available.

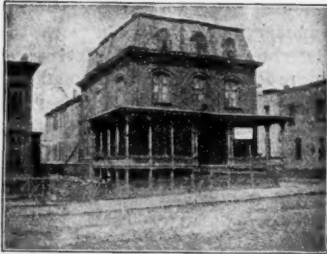
A thoroughly trained teacher offers to reside at the Commons and give her evenings to this service if the one expense of residence is met.

This amounts to five dollars per week and with incidentals will require twenty-five dollars per month.

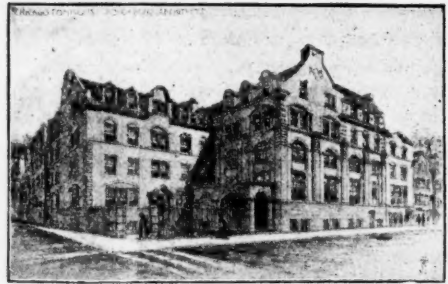
The equipment of the fine training kitchen in the new building with demonstration tables, cupboards, and utensils needed for immediate use, call for an investment of \$300. Who will thus assure to the home-life of this community this help fundamental to self-help?

## Chicago Commons

THE OLD AND THE NEW



THE OLD COMMONS



THE NEW BUILDING  
Grand Avenue and North Morgan Street

### COMPLETION OF MAIN WING ASSURED.

Gift of \$5,000 to Finish Upper Two Floors.

Gymnasium, Shower Baths, Lockers and Apparatus Costing \$3,500  
Still Unprovided For.

Now for the \$20,000 to Build the Residence Wing!

Who will Lay Its Foundation at a Cost of \$750?

Who will Offer the Last \$5,000 to House the Resident Workers?

We are grateful to announce that, in response to our appeal of last month for funds with which to put to use the entire Morgan street wing, one of Chicago's most public-spirited citizens added \$5,000 to his previous gift of \$1,000. Contracts were immediately let to finish off and heat the two upper floors, and thus the work of completing the whole interior is at last actually being rushed. Our rapidly growing work will be provided with the following equipment early in December:

In the basement, Boys' Clubs, Manual Training, Cooking School Kitchen, and Lunch Room. In the first story, the Assembly Hall, with 500 seats for the use of the Sunday services of the Tabernacle Church, the Commons' Free Floor Tuesday Night Meeting, the Pleasant Sunday Afternoon, and the larger musical and social occasions of the Settlement. On the second story, the daily Kindergarten and its Training Class, and the Bible School of the Tabernacle Church, together with the Girls' Clubs. In the third story the Woman's Club, the Progressive Club for Young Women, and the Tabernacle Ladies' Aid and Missionary Society, as well as dwelling rooms for two residents and space for shower baths and lockers. In the fourth floor, the Gymnasium, 50 x 28, and the suite for the family residence of the head-worker.

Yet the **Residence Wing** is indispensably necessary to the effectiveness of everything that is done or attempted at the new building. For the household life, the family spirit and the abiding personal influence of the individual resident workers constitute the very soul of the settlement, without which it loses its distinctive significance. We plead, therefore, for the roof and walls to shelter this group of twenty or more volunteer workers.

On May 1, 1901, our lease upon the old residence, for which we are paying \$1,300 a year and the expense of repairing, expires. By that time our group may be obliged to scatter if the new residence wing is not ready for their occupancy. Who will give the \$750 to lay the foundation before the ground is frozen? Who will offer an incentive to pay for the superstructure by agreeing to put on the roof?

